



Section 20D.210.25, explains sight clearance at intersections:

"The obstruction of a motor vehicle operator's view at an intersection shall be prohibited within the 'Sight Distance Triangle' described in this section between a height of two feet and eight feet above existing street grade. Sight obstructions that shall be excluded from the 'Sight Distance Triangle' include parked vehicles, signs, fences, hedges, shrubs, natural vegetation, trees, and other inanimate objects greater than one foot in width. Sight obstructions that are permitted in the 'Sight Distance Triangle' include utility poles, traffic control devices, trees, and other inanimate objects 1.5 feet or less in width and spaced at least 50 feet apart."

Traffic Gems

A safety message from Traffic Operations:

By Susan Byszeski, Transportation Department

The Sight Distance Triangle

Here's a scenario that's not hard to imagine: You're driving. You come to an intersection. You stop and signal to make a right turn. You look to your left for oncoming traffic. An illegally parked delivery truck blocks your view of the road. You inch out. An oncoming car honks, swerves, and narrowly misses clobbering you.

You were almost a victim of an obstructed sight distance triangle.

A sight distance triangle is the area defined by a driver's line of sight and the location of a visual barrier that creates a potential safety hazard. Sight distance problems frequently occur at intersections where homeowners plant and fail to maintain tall shrubs or build fences that block a driver's view of pedestrians, bicyclists, and cross-street traffic.

It is critical to traffic safety that we remove any obstructions that could block our view, which is why Redmond's Community Development Guide prohibits sight obstructions at intersections. Sight obstructions could include parked vehicles, signs, fences, overgrown shrubs and trees, and other inanimate objects greater than

one foot in width. (The regulations do make exceptions for utility poles, traffic control devices, and some trees. See the sidebar for the exact wording of the regulation.)

Please report sight distance triangle problems to Dave Alm, Traffic Operations Manager, at 425-556-2875. If you live on a corner and a sight clearance problem is created by overgrown vegetation on your property, the City's Code Enforcement Officers will notify you by mail that you need to take care of the problem within two weeks. If the problem is not resolved within that time frame, Street Operations crews will leave a door hanger at your home with the date they will return to remove the obstruction. Once their work is complete, the homeowner is billed for the job. A sight clearance problem that presents an immediate traffic safety hazard, such as a stop sign blocked from view by overgrown vegetation, has to be resolved within 24 hours. The homeowner is notified to take care of the obstruction, but the City will return the next day to do the job if the homeowner fails to do so.

The City welcomes questions or will gladly provide clarification about the sight distance triangle. Call Traffic Operations for assistance at 425-556-2875.

Call Ahead for Curbside Computer and TV Recycling

Redmond introduced curbside recycling collection for computers and TVs earlier this year for residents of single-family households. To avoid missed pick-ups, you are now asked to call 1-800-592-9995 at least one business day ahead of your garbage collection day to arrange to have your items collected.

Please put electronics two feet away from your blue recycling cart. Put smaller electronic items like cell phones, keyboards and cables in clear plastic bags and place them two feet from your blue cart. Do not put them in your cart, as they need to be collected and recycled separately.

The curbside program accepts these items (limit 60 lbs. per unit): Computer equipment, VCRs, Audio equipment, TVs (limit 21" screen) and cell phones.

